

Message Text

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P R 262204Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 203163

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, JA, TW

SUBJECT: STORMFURY

REFS: A) STATE 188235; B) TAIPEI 5222; C) TOKYO 11397

1. TAIPEI'S POINT REGARDING AUTOMATIC EXCLUSION OF GROG
FROM ANY INTERNATIONALIZED GROUP ON STORMFURY UNDER ESCAP/
WMO IS, OF COURSE, WELL TAKEN. BACKGROUND OF PROPOSAL IS
THAT IN FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF MOVING PROJECT STORMFURY
TO PACIFIC, DEPARTMENT WAS OF VIEW THAT SOME SORT OF INTER-
NATIONAL AEGIS MIGHT OVERCOME AT LEAST PART OF DIFFICULTIES
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INHERENT IN U.S. CONDUCTING SUCH RESEARCH COMPLETELY ON ITS

OWN. ESCAP/WMO UMBRELLA WAS PROPOSED BECAUSE IT PROVIDED BROAD COVERAGE FOR EXPERIMENTS ON WEATHER PHENOMENA WHICH ARE WIDESPREAD IN WESTERN PACIFIC, INCLUDING KOREA ON NORTH TO INDOCHINA/THAILAND ON SOUTH. MOREOVER, FOR SOME TIME NOW WMO/ESCAP TYPHOON COMMITTEE HAS BEEN A FORUM FOR STORMFURY DISCUSSIONS.

2. WE REALIZE, OF COURSE, THAT THESE AUSPICES ARE IMPERFECT AND THERE WILL MAY BE FURTHER MODIFICATIONS WHICH MIGHT BE MADE IF INTERNATIONALIZATION PROVES FEASIBLE. NONTHELESS WE KNOW OF NO REPEAT NO WAY TO SOLVE PROBLEM POSED BY FACT

THAT IT IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE PRC AND ROC, BOTH OF WHICH ARE PRIME TARGETS FOR TYPHOONS IN AREA, PARTICIPATE IN SAME INTERNATIONAL GROUP. WE BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE PRC AGREEMENT TO ANY U.S. TYPHOON EXPERIMENTATION IN WESTERN PACIFIC. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH AUSPICES SUGGESTED IN REF B.

3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT HAD BEEN OUR THOUGHT THAT IF PROJECT WERE INTERNATIONALIZED ONE SOLUTION WOULD BE FOR U.S. TO KEEP GROC CLOSELY INFORMED CONCERNING ALL MATTERS AFFECTING IT ARISING IN ANY INTERNATIONAL POLICY ADVISORY BOARD. MOREOVER, CENTRAL TO U.S. POSITION ON QUESTION OF TRANSFERRING STORMFURY IS PRINCIPLE THAT SUCH TRANSFER COULD TAKE PLACE ONLY IF THERE IS NO REPEAT NO OBJECTION ON PART OF ANY AFFECTED COUNTRY OR TERRITORY.

4. WE APPROACHED GOJ IN FIRST INSTANCE SINCE TOKYO HAS LONG HAD PROBLEMS WITH IDEA OF MOVING STORMFURY TO PACIFIC. IF GOJ FINDS INTERNATIONALIZATION SCHEME ACCEPTABLE, WE WILL THEN CONSULT WITH GROC AND THE OTHER AFFECTED COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES CONCERNING THE PROPOSAL. INGERSOLL

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